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Montreal, CANADA

July 9, 2004

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Marie LAPALME
Serial No.: 09/642,052
Filed: August 21, 2000
Title: VIDEO-ASSISTED APPARATUS FOR HEARING IMPAIRED
PERSONS
Group Art Unit: 2613
Examiner: Richard LEE (703) 308-6612
Agent of Record: Alexandra Daoud (514) 847-4333

MAIL STOP AF
COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS,
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
U.S.A

SUBSTANCE OF INTERVIEW UNDER §713.04

Sir:

In accordance with §713.04 of the MPEP, it is respectfully requested that the following written statement as to the substance of a telephone interview for the above-referenced patent application be made of record.

1. An Applicant initiated telephone interview occurred on May 27, 2004 for the above-referenced application.

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2. The participants for said telephone interview were Richard Lee, Patent Examiner; James Anglehart, Agent of Record; and Alexandra Daoud, Agent of Record.
3. No exhibits or demonstrations were shown during the interview.
4. The only claim discussed was claim 11.
5. The prior art discussed was US patent 5,886,735 to Bullister and US patent 5,742,335 to Canon.
6. Applicant argued that the term "real time" in claim 11 was to be interpreted as less than 33 milliseconds, as defined in the specification. Applicant quoted section 2111.01 of the MPEP to argue that words in patent claims are given their ordinary meaning in the usage of the field of the invention, unless the text of the patent makes clear that a word was used with a special meaning.
7. Examiner stated that the term "real time" must be given its broadest reasonable interpretation and the limitation of the specification could not be read into the claim.
8. Applicant argued that Bullister did not disclose an apparatus for "hearing impaired persons".
9. Examiner stated that "hearing impaired persons" were a subset of all persons and were therefore covered by the apparatus taught by Bullister.
10. No agreement was reached and Applicant asked Examiner to formally state his arguments by putting them on record.
11. Applicants indicated that they would likely file an appeal based on the Examiners rejection.


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Respectfully submitted,
Marie LAPALME et al.

By:

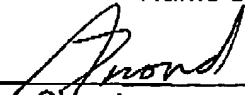

Alexandra Daoud (Reg. 55,992)

CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this paper is being facsimile transmitted to the
Patent and Trademark Office on the date shown below.

Alexandra Daoud

Name of person signing certification


Signature

July 9, 2004
Date